Tourists in the N.E. Region

*392. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of foreign tourists visiting the North-Eastern Region is decreasing day-by-day; and

(b) if so, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Funds to boost tourism in Gujarat

*393. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the projects approved to boost tourism in Gujarat during the last three years;

(b) the funds allocated and utilised for the purpose; and

(c) the progress made in the completion of projects?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) The Central Department of Tourism provides funds on the basis of projects prioritised every year in consultation with the State Government of Gujarat. The following projects were approved for grants-in-aid during the last three years:

Year	No. of projects approved
1998-99	15
1999-2000	19
2000-2001	19